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INFORMATION REPORT

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1. The present Soviet military adviser at the Infantry Institute at Lipnik nad Becvou (P50/014) is Col. (fnu) Yefremovich Klimenko. Klimenko, who arrived at the Institute in September 1949, came from the USSR and was assigned to replace the then incumbent adviser, Col. (fnu) Vorobiev. Vorobiev

remained at the Institute until about June 1950 to train Klimenko and then was assigned to the Ministry of National Defense in Prague.

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2. The powers of the Soviet military adviser at the Institute are comprehensive. He controls not only the training of Institute students, but those activities of Institute staff personnel that bear on student training as well. Because of the Institute CO's subordination to the wishes of the adviser, almost every activity at the Institute is carried out under the supervision and influence of the adviser. The Institute CO, possessing the actual command authority over Institute staff personnel and students, acts as an intermediary who transmits the orders and suggestions of the adviser to the staff and student body. At staff meetings attended by the present adviser, Klimenko, the Institute CO has often shown signs of being in disagreement with Klimenko's remarks, many of which are offensive. However, being aware of Klimenko's status, and fearing the consequences that might result from disagreement with him, the CO has readily agreed with everything he has said. Klimenko's appearance on the drill grounds evokes fear and apprehension on the part of the instructors present, since every discrepancy he notes results in unpleasant consequences for the instructor concerned. The adviser exercises his authority in the following manner:
 - a. The Soviet military adviser maintains a constant check on the drill and training of Institute students; any discrepancies noted are either pointed out directly to the instructor concerned, or reported to the

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Institute CO who charges the head of the training section with the responsibility to see to it that the discrepancies are corrected. Up to July 1951, the Institute CO maintained the practice of issuing a monthly bulletin called "Training Directives" (Vycvikove smernice) which listed these discrepancies and prescribed the manner in which they were to be corrected. When the adviser notes shortcomings applicable to the entire training which have to be corrected quickly, the CO calls a meeting of all training staff personnel. These meetings are attended by the adviser.

- b. The adviser reviews and makes corrections and additions to the proposed curriculum submitted by the various training section heads prior to the beginning of a new school year. The curriculum is then sent to the Ministry of National Defense for approval.
- c. Proposed lecture outlines and field problems are submitted to the adviser for approval.
- d. Proposed training for Institute staff personnel must be reviewed and approved by the adviser. In 1950 Klimenko, assuming the role of regimental commander, himself directed one tactics problem for staff personnel. It dealt with an infantry regiment approach (utočný pochod) to and encounter (stretnutí) with the enemy. After the exercise he critiqued the performance of officers placed in command positions during the problem. Later in the same year Klimenko demonstrated for student battalion commanders and leading staff tactics instructors the method used by Soviet infantry for moving by rushes and crawling. He directed that instruction in this method be immediately adopted at the Institute. The Soviet technique of rushes differs from the method used by the Czechoslovak Army only in one respect. A Czechoslovak infantryman usually remained on the spot of his drop, whereas the Soviet infantryman crawls away from the spot of his drop. According to Klimenko the following crawling techniques are used by Soviet infantry:
 - 1) When flat on the ground the crawling movements resemble those of a frog. The left arm and right leg are pushed sideways to front and the right arm and left leg follow. The body slides flat along the ground.
 - 2) Side crawls are always executed with the left side of the body on the ground since in all methods of crawling the weapon should be invariably held in the right hand. Movement in a side crawl is achieved with the left arm and the right leg.
 - 3) When crawling on the knees, knees are pulled forward under the body as much as possible. This type of crawl is used only when nearing the crest of a hill.
- e. The Infantry Institute receives through official channels copies of the Soviet Vojenne vestniky (Military Magazines). These are first read by the adviser who marks important articles devoted to training and then orders the appropriate training section chief to have them translated and to modify existing training methods to conform to them.
- f. Klimenko usually presents a speech to Institute instructors at the quarterly student evaluation conference in which he sums up the activity of individual officers and simultaneously evaluates their performance, orders improvement in training methods, and appeals to the staff to increase their efforts to intensify training.

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g. The Soviet adviser attends the regular weekly meetings of the Institute CO and students during which student off-duty activities are discussed.

3. The Soviet adviser travels to Prague from time to time to attend official conferences at the Ministry of National Defense. There he most probably reports on the progress of training at the Institute and receives instructions concerning his future activities.

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] the mission of Soviet advisers in Czechoslovakia is the same - to convert the Czechoslovak Army into a facsimile of the Soviet Army so that in time of war Czechoslovak units could be used for cooperation with Russian units with a minimum of difficulty.

6. Every headquarters of division or higher level, and all military schools of the Czechoslovak Army, have Soviet military advisers attached to them. The Soviet adviser to the Infantry School at Bruntal (P50/N99) is Col. (fnu) Anikin.

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7. Apart from Soviet advisers, there appear to be no other Soviet military personnel or units stationed on Czechoslovak territory.

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